GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

School Education - Administrative approval to procure and supply TABs to VIII class students for the Academic Year, 2023 – 2024 with budget estimates of Rs.750 crores subject to limit the procurement to the actual requirement of students and to deliver only for the time when the schools re - opens – Accorded – Orders – Issued.

SCHOOL EDUCATION (PROG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.186 Dated: 06-12-2022
Read the following:-

1. G.O.Ms.No.134, School Education (Prog.II) Department, Dated 03.08.2022.
2. From the Commissioner of School Education, e-file Computer No.1891925.

ORDER:-

In the G.O.1st read above, Government have issued orders according administrative approval for procurement of about 5 Lakhs TABs for supply to the VIII Class students during the Academic Year, 2022 – 2023 with an approximate estimate of Rs.750 crores, subject to certain conditions, duly authorizing APTS to take up procurement of TABs.

2. The Commissioner of School Education, vide reference 2nd read above, has stated that, the TABs are to be provided to the VIII Class students during the academic year 2023-2024 also. In this regard, he has stated that 4,48,718 students are studying in Class VII in Government and Aided Schools during the academic year 2022-2023 (Source: Child Info data as on 03.11.2022). All the students will be promoted to Class VIII for the academic year 2023-2024. He also stated that, by assuming 100% promotion and transition, the current enrollment a total of 4,71,154 TABs may be procured for VIII class students for the academic year 2023-2024. Total of 5 lakh TABs can be procured including those for teachers for class 9 as class 8 teachers are already covered in the Academic Year, 2022 – 2023.

3. The Commissioner of School Education, has therefore, requested the Government for administrative approval on same costs of last year plus 10%.

(P.T.O)

4. Government, after careful consideration of the matter, hereby accord administrative approval to procure and supply TABs to VIII class students for the Academic Year, 2023 – 2024 with budget estimates of Rs.750 crores subject to limit the procurement to the actual requirement of students and to deliver only for the time when the schools re–opens, subject to following the conditions:-

(a) Procure the tablets and use the freely available software and undertake open competitive procurement of the tablets in a manner that is most cost-effective.

(b) Procure only hardware what's required for the purpose. A list shall be prepared of the various Edtech software proposed for use and their respective hardware requirements should be mapped, and the required specifications finalised. The advice shall be taken from non-profits and experts actively engaged in the Edtech field. Avoid procurement of very expensive state-of-art devices with high storage, processing power, graphics, high resolution cameras etc - more is not required when less is enough for the purpose.

(c) Possibility of dovetailing funds from the Samagra Siksha and any other Government of India programs to meet atleast part of the expenditure for the tablets.

(d) Use the free content available in Diksha platform of the Government of India and certain other sources. No additional budget will be made available to procure any software.

(e) Background work shall be done to avoid the possibility of not having the right content and software ready even after the tablets are procured; not having content and software which are appropriately mapped to the curriculum; and ensure that the teachers are adequately equipped to facilitate tablets-based learning once the tablets become available.

5. Further, Government hereby authorize the APTS to take up procurement of TABs, duly following the e – procurement norms, after according permission for specifications of the TABs from the Government.

6. The Commissioner of School Education and the Managing Director, A.P.T.S., shall take further necessary action accordingly, in the matter.

(Contd..)

7. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance (FMU – SE) Dept., vide their U.O.No.FIN01-FMU/7/2022-FMU-SE (Computer No.1893260), dt. 14.11.2022.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

PRAVEEN PRAKASH
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner of School Education, A.P., Vijayawada.
The Managing Director, A.P. Technology Services Limited,
3rd Floor, R&B Building, M.G. Road, Labbipet, Vijayawada –520010

Copy to:-
The O.S.D., to Hon'ble Minister for Education.
The OS.D., to Secy. to Hon'ble C.M.
The P.S to Prl. Secy. to Govt. (School Education).
The Finance (FMU-SE) Department.
SF/SCs.

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER